

Term Two Kindergarten Overview

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Welcome back to Term 2. The students have returned with enthusiasm for learning and have settled quickly into their usual class routines.

It is important for children to arrive promptly by 8.50am so they are ready for line up outside the library. They will then proceed to class with their teacher to complete their literacy block. Students arriving after this time are required to go to the front office to receive a late note. The school day ends at **2.50pm**. Parents/carers are requested to wait outside to meet their child at the designated class line up area.

Class	Line up number	Class teacher
KKD	4	Kelly Dunstan
KKV	5	Kristen Vellar
KKR	6	Kate Riordan
KJB	7	Justine Boreham
KLS	8	Lauren Scott
KTF	9	Natasha Taylor and Radia Fattah
KRB	10	Rhianna Byrne
KKN	11	Kym Naylor

If you need to take your child out of school during the day, you are required to sign your child out at the front office first and then hand a 'leave slip' to the class teacher.

PARENT HELPERS

We greatly appreciate assistance from parents in our classroom. If you wish to assist in any way in the classroom or at home, please speak to your child's teacher after you have received your Working with Vulnerable People card.

LUNCH ORDERS

The canteen is now open every day. A lunch order can be submitted in two ways:

- 1) Online through <http://www.flexischools.com.au/> please use the link to sign up for this service, or
- 2) Handwritten. These must be written on a **paper bag** with the money inside. In the case of the canteen providing a bag, there will be an extra charge. Please also indicate your **child's name and class**. Lunch orders are to be given to the teacher as soon as your child enters the classroom as they need to be at the canteen **before 9:30am**. Online orders will go straight to the canteen for filling and returning to class in the lunch order basket. Please note if your child is having a lunch order they will still need fruit and recess for the other break times.

FOOD AT SCHOOL

Harrison School is an allergy friendly school. This is because we have children who are allergic to foods such as nuts and eggs. Please take care when providing food for the class (e.g. birthdays or class parties). At Harrison School we do not encourage children to share their food with each other. We have three food breaks. **Fruit break** will be held daily at around **10am** and it is important for your child to bring fruit or vegetables to eat at this time. Please also remember to pack a full water bottle daily.

Children will then eat **morning tea (10:40)** and **lunch (12:50)** before going out to play at recess and again at lunch.

NOTES AND MONEY

Any notes for excursions and incursions need to be returned prior to the due date with all relevant notes signed and monies, if applicable. Please bring these to your classroom teacher.

CLOTHING

Please **label all** of your child's **belongings** so they do not get lost. This includes hats, jumpers, bags, lunch boxes and drink bottles. Lost property is located in a laundry basket in the shared space in the Kindergarten area. Please provide a change of clothes in a plastic bag labelled with your child's name, in their school bag, in case of accidents.

TOYS

We discourage students from bringing toys to school as broken and lost toys cause great distress. If your child would like to bring a toy in for their news day it must be kept in their bag at all other times.

COMMUNICATION

Please feel free to make an appointment to see your child's teacher to discuss any concerns. Please keep a regular lookout in our school newsletter for information regarding special events. You may also contact your child's teacher by email. At the end of this letter there is a comprehensive list of email addresses.

ABSENCES

As a legal requirement, all student absences require a **written notification** (handwritten or by email at Harrison.Absences@ed.act.edu.au) even if verbal notice has been given. These notes can be handed to the classroom teacher on the day your child returns to school from any absence - sick leave or holidays (or just a day off to regroup).

SUN SMART

Students are required to wear a navy blue wide brimmed or bucket hat to school daily for play time and sport. If your child does not have a hat they must play under the green or blue shaded area. Please ensure you have applied sunscreen to your child before they arrive at school. Time will be available before heading out to lunch for your child to re-apply their own sunscreen themselves. **June** and **July** are '**Hats Off**' months where the UV rays are low and it is safe to access vitamin D via the sun.

LITERACY

In Kindergarten we teach Literacy in Context. We aim to build student's understanding of Literacy through connecting real life to balanced, meaningful and engaging experiences. A curiosity to read, write, discover and express new knowledge is facilitated through exposure to rich sources of literature. Literacy in Context addresses key concepts including; letter and sound associations, tricky words, spelling, sentence and language structures and critical literacy skills. Motivation and meaning is strengthened by connecting books to; drama, art, diverse cultural perspectives, music and movement explorations.

Our focus in Kindergarten is on teaching sounds rather than teaching letters. For example, the sound /n/ can be created by the spelling choices n, nn or kn. The sound sequence that a class learns each week is supported by a big book or other rich text that the teacher has chosen for the class to read. To support literacy at home, please read with your child as much as you can and complete the daily letter/sound homework. The weekly letter/sound sequence will continue to be sent home every Friday and uploaded to the Harrison Kindergarten Facebook page.

HOME READING

It is great to see how many students have been bringing in their home readers regularly. The readers your children bring home are instructional levels and a book of interest chosen by your child. Books can be returned when needed. Interest books are for you to read with your child with a focus on enjoyment and practising strategies targeted in their classroom program. The instructional book will be for students to read to you, to begin with students will need assistance and guidance from you however as their reading level progresses, they will begin to read independently.

Teachers will guide the choice of students' home readers to provide a balance of books that are read to, read with and read by:

- **'Read To'** allows your child to see what 'good readers' do to decode words. When you read to a child they are learning as they are watching strategies in action.
- **'Read With'** slows the process down and the child is supported in using those strategies themselves.
- **'Read By'** is about building independence in reading.

NUMERACY

The children engage in mathematical activities daily. The activities are hands on, using concrete materials and games to explore, learn and consolidate concepts. In Term 2 learning intentions are:

Numbers and Algebra	Measurement and Geometry	Statistics and Probability
-Students make connections between number names, numerals and quantities up to 10	-Students compare objects directly to decide which is heavier and holds more	-Students answer simple questions to collect information and make simple inferences.
-Students count forwards while exploring teen numbers	-Students sequence familiar events in time order	
-Copy, continue and create patterns with objects and drawings.	-Students know the days of the week and link events to the days of the week.	

Our programs have been established to cater for individual learning needs and styles. We are then able to extend and support children by differentiating the curriculum where needed.

INTEGRATED INQUIRY

This term students are finishing our History topic of "My Family, My Story" and moving onto our new Geography topic of "My Special Place". Students will have opportunities to share their favourite places, to explain why they are their favourite places and tell how they look after and care for them. Students will also be visiting the Ngunna Munnagali Room in our library to explore indigenous artefacts and learn about Ngunnawal land.

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The children participate in one gross motor session a week (Tuesday) and are asked to wear their PE uniform on this day. Fitness sessions are run throughout the week incorporating fundamental motor skills, body awareness, motor memory, balance and spatial awareness.

SPECIALIST PROGRAMMES

During the week, each class will participate in the following specialist activities:

Japanese: Amy McLeod

All classes participate in a 55 minute session of Japanese each week. During the year Kindergarten focus on learning to introduce themselves using Japanese, numbers and colours through hands on games, activities and songs.

Music: Kieryn Khan

Music this year in Kindergarten begins with a strong focus on beat, as children use a range of instruments and marching games to keep the beat across various musical styles. Students will be introduced to music notation concepts, counting the beat in playful rhymes and representing it with drawing materials and manipulatives. Instruments featured this term include ukuleles, tapping sticks and floor drums. Kindergarten students will have opportunities to echo four and three beat rhythm patterns and try out their own ideas to play instruments in different ways. The term will also be rich in singing, beginning with learning the new school song, 'Never Give Up' and other songs which will be regularly sung at Harrison gatherings and assemblies.

Library: Nola Zorzi

Each week all classes will go to the library with the class teacher. These sessions include basic library orientation skills, library/literacy terminology, location and order of fiction books and regular borrowing. Children become familiar with quality picture books available to them and every lesson will be centred around the joy of reading and fostering a love of books.

Science: Radia Fattah (Fortnightly)

This term our science topic will be 'Weather in my World'. Students will be observing and describing features of the weather such as temperature, cloud cover, wind strength and rain. Students will be exploring clothes and activities that are suitable for particular weather conditions as well as describing changes in weather conditions with time and location.

TIMES OF THE WEEK TO REMEMBER

P-6 ASSEMBLY: Wednesdays - 9.15-10.00am in weeks 1,3, 7 and 9

WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY: Wednesday Weeks 5 and 10 from 9:15am - 10:00am

Gross Motor - Tuesday

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Reconciliation Day - Monday 27th May (Week 5)

Queen's Day - Monday 10th June (Week 7)

Please regularly check our Harrison School online calendar for upcoming events.

http://www.harrison.act.edu.au/our_community/calendar2

Facebook Page: Harrison School Kindergarten 2019

Contact e-mail addresses:

Executive teacher	Janet.Kilsby@ed.act.edu.au	Deputy principal	Nada.Zarac@ed.act.edu.au
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Warmest regards, **The Kindergarten Team**